

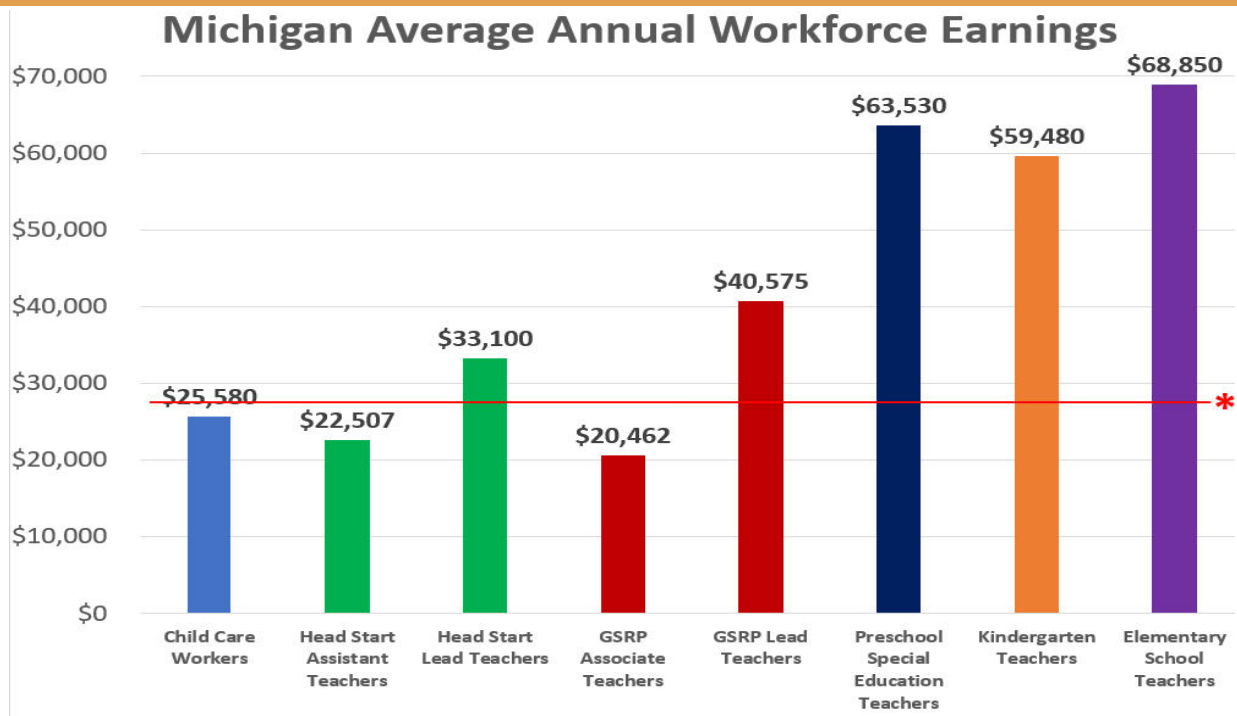
# MICHIGAN

## Access to High Quality Early Learning Matters!

Research shows that during the earliest years of a child's life:

- 700 - 1,000 new neural connections form every second
- Genetics plus experiences shape the developing brain
- The foundation forms for future cognitive abilities
- Vocabulary at age 3 can predict 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Achievement

### High Quality Programs Depend on a Quality Workforce Low Wages Undermine Quality



\*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) eligibility for a family of three: \$28,550

### Michigan Demographics

- 684,000 Children Under Age 6
- 458,000 Children Under Age 6 Living in Households with All Parents Working (68%)
- 129,000 Children Under Age 6 Living in Poverty (19%)
- 1 Million Children Ages 0-8
- 424,000 Children Ages 0-8 Below 200% Poverty (42%)

### Michigan Average Annual Wages for Other Occupations

- Parking Lot Attendants: \$26,080
- Manicurist & Pedicurist: \$29,700
- Word Processors/Typists: \$37,180
- Nurses: \$73,980

Sources: Head Start Program Information Report (2019-20); Kids Count Data Book (Michigan; 2021); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics (2020); Great Start Readiness Program State Evaluation Annual Report (2019-20).

